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RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 0204  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1336  
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 5019  
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1135  
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 1666  
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TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [PGOV](#) [MX](#) [CI](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REPORT - PROMOTING CHILE'S SUCCESS AND A MORE ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL ROLE

¶1. Summary: In separate interviews, former Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda and Chilean Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley emphasized that Chile is an example of political, economic, and social success in Latin America, but that Chileans fail to recognize the scope of these accomplishments. Castaneda stated that Chile should boast more about its achievements and play a more prominent role in international affairs, one similar to that of Canada and Sweden. End Summary.

¶2. In conservative, influential newspaper-of-record "El Mercurio" (4/8, circ. 260,000), Former Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda stated: "Chile is the only success story in Latin America in the last 20 years in terms of democracy, economic growth, and reduction of poverty... and it has stood out internationally, with prestigious and brave stances on important issues.... (But) It is embarrassed with its success.... I have always said: let's compare the systems implemented in Chile and Cuba from 1987 till now, a 20-year period. There is no comparison.

¶3. "It would be much better if Chile would boast more about its accomplishments.... Chile can be similar to Sweden and Canada...which in the last 50 years have had a very active multilateral role on issues such as peace forces, climate change, human rights, anti personal mines.... Chile has an enormous potential and must have a very active role in the region and on multilateral affairs.... I would explicitly uphold those principles that are important to it, such as democracy, respect for human rights, a market economy, globalization, and a cordial relationship with the United States."

¶4. In the Business "Diario Financiero" (4/9, circ. 30,000), Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley highlighted Chile's achievements: "We must ask ourselves why a country such as Japan... concluded a free trade agreement negotiation with Chile. The answer is because Japan sees in us what we fail to see; that we are a country that has been among the most successful of the developing nations over the last 20 years, that we are a democracy, that we have predictable rules of the game, a solid economy that will continue to grow, and that we attack social problems gradually, but persistently....

¶5. "The problem is that we are in a region where we want integration, but it has been unable to define with clarity its strategy toward the world.... We do not have a common stance on globalization, yet we say Chile must be a platform (for the region), which means we must work with the world and have good relations with all nations in Latin America.... Chile has followed a noteworthy path and will not stray from it. We are, however, willing to accept diversity in the region and will not question other countries for

following different paths, but we will not stray from ours."

KELLY